

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1-5 and 7-16 are pending, of which claim 1 is independent. Claim 6 has been cancelled without prejudice. Claim 1 has been amended to correct informalities in claim language and to more clearly define the claimed subject matter. New claim 16 has been added. Support for the amendment and the new claim is found, for example, at paragraphs [0048], [0049], [0068], [0084] and [0085] of the present disclosure. Care has been taken to avoid introducing new matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-5 and 9-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lieber et al. (WO 03/005450) in view of Yang et al. (US 2004/0175844). Claims 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lieber et al. in view of Yang et al, in further supporting view of Goldberg et al. (US 5,503,698). These rejections are traversed for at least the following reasons.

Applicant respectfully submits that, at a minimum, none of the cited references disclose that “*the matrix material removal step includes an irradiation step of irradiating an ultraviolet ray to the mixed material followed by a removing step of removing the matrix material by heating or etching,*” as recited by amended claim 1. In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner asserts that the combination of Lieber and Yang discloses the limitations of claim 1. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that Applicant admitted that Lieber discloses the steps of claim 1 except for heating and etching for the removal step, and asserts that Yang discloses removal of the matrix material by etching. However, it is clear that, at a minimum, neither Lieber nor Yang discloses

an irradiation step of irradiating an ultraviolet ray to the mixed material followed by a removing step of removing the matrix material by heating or etching, as recited by claim 1. It is also clear that Goldberg does not cure the deficiency of Lieber and Yang. Further, it would not have been obvious to add this feature to any combination of the cited references.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and all claims dependent thereon are patentable over the cited references.

Regarding claims 7 and 8, the Examiner asserts that Goldberg discloses the use of polyphthalaldehyde. However, Applicant respectfully submits that since Goldberg is directed to a chemical solder, while the present subject matter is directed to a method of orienting an electronic functional material, Goldberg is not analogous art to the present subject matter. As such, it would not have been obvious to combine Goldberg with Lieber and Yang. Thus, claims 7 and 8 are patentable over the cited references for this reason in addition to the dependency upon claim 1.

Based on the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of claims 1-5 and 7-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

New Claim

Since new claim 16 depends upon claim 1, this claim is patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Further, since none of the cited references discloses or suggests the features of claim 16, this claim is patentable for its own merit in addition to the dependency upon claim 1.

CONCLUSION

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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